



Walking the Dogs



written by Nadia Vegas

illustrated by Emma Stevenson

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McGraw-Hill School Division
Two Penn Plaza
New York, New York 10121

Book Design and Production: Kirchoff/Wohlberg, Inc.

Printed in the United States of America

ISBN 0-02-185049-6/2,B.1,U.1

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**McGraw-Hill
School Division**

New York

Farmington



Stew was sitting on the stairs.
He was squeezed between his
friends Sam and June. "My money
jar is empty," said Stew. "I want to
make some money."



"Me, too," said Sam. "But how?
What do we know how to do?"

June chewed her apple. "We
know how to eat," she said.

"Not a lot of money in that,"
said Stew.



"We know how to talk," said Sam.

"No money in that," said Stew. "Last week my dad said he'd pay me to stop talking."

"We know how to walk," said June.



Sam jumped up. "Watch Sam walk!" he announced. "Only five dollars!"

"No, wait," said Stew. "How about walking people's dogs?"



They went up to Stew's room to talk about their new job. How could they find dogs to walk?

They decided to ask Mr. Muldoon, who lived next door.



"You could put up some signs," said Mr. Muldoon. "And Boomer and Truck can be the first dogs on your list. They love to go for walks."



The next day Stew, June, and Sam put up their signs. People started calling them right away. By the end of the week, they had ten more dogs to walk.

With Boomer and Truck, that made twelve.



Every morning Stew, June, and Sam met at Stew's. Then they picked up all the dogs and took them to play in the park. Then they took them back.

Stew	June	Sam	Number of Dogs
4	4	4	12



One morning it was very hot.
Stew felt as if he would melt. He
poured some water while he
waited for his friends.

Soon June showed up. She
poured some water, too.

But where was Sam?

Stew and June,
Sorry.
Dad's plane was early,
and we had to
leave to meet him.
Can you walk
my dogs today?
Thanks, -SAM-



June and Stew walked to Sam's.
There was a note for them.

"Oh, no! Can you walk six
dogs?" asked Stew.

June smiled. "Sure," she said,
"but only if you take the poodle."



Stew	June	Sam	Number of Dogs
4	4	4	12
6	6	0	12

Stew and June walked all the dogs down the street. Then they saw June's mother. She looked upset.

"What's wrong, Mom?" asked June.



Her mother yelled, "Did you forget about your check-up? We are due at the doctor's in ten minutes."

"Oh, no!" said June. "Stew, do you think . . ."

"I can try," said Stew.



It was hard just holding on to all the dogs. Each dog wanted to go a different way. And it was so hot!



Down the street a fire hydrant
was shooting out water. Somehow
Stew got the dogs there. He tied
them up. Stew and the dogs played
in the splashing water. It felt nice
and cool.



Stew thought that walking the
dogs this way was a very good way
to make money!

Story Questions and Activity

- I.** How many dogs do the three friends walk each day?
- 2.** Why do Stew, Sam, and June ask Mr. Muldoon about dog walking?
- 3.** Does Stew live in the city or the country?
How do you know?
- 4.** What is this story mostly about?
- 5.** If Stew, Sam, and June had gotten together with the Elm Street Kids' Club, how would this story be different?

Finish the Chart

Look at the charts on pages 9 and 12. They show how many dogs each person walked on different days. Make a new chart to show how many dogs each person walked on the last day of the story. Does the number of dogs add up to 12? Explain.

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ISBN 0-02-185049-6



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